

SECRET

1 April 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 1 April 1981

The Director was in the chair. The Director welcomed Admiral Inman on board on full-time status. []

25X1

The Director commented the President is in good shape and is still in command. The Vice President will perform ceremonial functions but will not be Acting President. The Director noted that the Government will continue with business as usual and there is an NSC meeting today. []

25X1

The Director noted that Secretary Haig's trip to the Middle East was up in the air but that he would probably go. []

25X1

The Director commented that we have to get our report on Executive Order 12036 finalized. Admiral Inman noted that he had called Admiral Nance on the NSC Staff and had received an extension to 1 May for submission of the recommendation on the Executive Order. Admiral Inman said that by the time the Director returns from his trip, we will have prepared for his perusal the final report. The Director noted we should look at the Order and the procedures under it to see where it can be simplified. Silver noted that he has a full-time staff working on this problem. The Director reviewed the various portions of the Executive Order and noted that that portion which deals with functions of the various agencies within the Community could cause problems over which one has what responsibilities. Silver noted he has received inputs from components within the Agency and they reflect overall satisfaction with the structure of the new Executive Order. He added a possible problem may arise because DoD may not have its submissions to the NSC in time. Admiral Inman said the NSC will reissue its directive on the Executive Order with the changed due date; this should alleviate the DoD problem. []

25X1

Admiral Inman noted that on 27 March he briefed HPSCI on Release of Reserve funds and will brief the SSCI on 3 April on the same. []

25X1

Admiral Inman noted he is putting together a schedule providing for April visits around the Agency and to other components outside Headquarters.

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Briggs noted that there are indications that the Departments of Justice, State, and Defense will oppose our proposal to amend the FOIA. Hitz said that appears to be the case and they want to deal with FOIA as a whole which Hitz said is not acceptable to the Agency, particularly in view of the fact that Representative Glenn L. English (D., OK) said he would give us priority at the hearings on FOIA. The Director concluded we should take the lead in any event, because FOIA causes difficulties in our careful handling of information provided by foreign governments. In response to the Director's question, Hitz said the Identities Legislation will be considered at a meeting of the HPSCI on 7 April and he will provide the DCI with background material. In response to the Director's question about Stein's briefing of HPSCI on 31 March, Hitz noted that Stein briefed on the philosophy and implementation of cover. []

25X1

Silver reported that Philip Agee held a press conference in Germany and reiterated charges that the documents relating to supply of arms to the Salvadoran rebels were U.S. forgeries. Silver said that the press conference had been video taped and that he will move for a criminal contempt citation against Agee because of his violation of a court injunction forbidding him from holding press conferences without clearing them with the Agency. Silver said he would like to discuss this further with the Director and Admiral Inman because of the political overtones. Admiral Inman said that he felt we should go ahead with the prosecution in order to have a better case at our FOIA hearings next week. Admiral Inman observed we must show the Committee that we are using the remedies we have available for relief to make a better case for our views on FOIA. []

25X1

The Director commented he had heard the Soviets are issuing a White Paper on terrorism. In response to the Director's question about who should prepare a rebuttal, McMahon suggested the DDO and NFAC but McMahon added, he believes CIA should adopt a no comment posture to any allegations in the White Paper because some of our future programs could be classed as terrorism. The Director tentatively agreed, but asked that we assess our vulnerability. (Action: DDO) []

25X1

Hitz noted that the Congressional committees are moving on the budget. Admiral Inman noted [] will attend the 8 April supplemental budget hearing rather than he or the Director. Hitz sees no difficulties. []

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Hitz noted that at the 7 April FOIA hearings, the Agency will be engaging in overkill on purpose. The Director will present his testimony following Congressman Robert Michel (R., IL); Congressman James C. Wright, Jr. (D., TX) will be followed by Justice Department representatives. Silver and McMahon will accompany the Director to the briefing. In response to Hitz' question about what papers the Director will need, the Director indicated he would not need any paper but would want to be aware of any points he should raise. (Action: LC) []

25X1

Clarke briefed on the military situation in Poland and Lehman reviewed the political situation noting that there are two critical events coming up which will have a great effect on what occurs. The first is the Solidarity leadership meeting which will discuss whether to accept the agreements reached with the government over the weekend; the other is the regular Soviet Politburo meeting on 2 April where a decision to intervene may be made. []

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Hetu noted that 12 employees from the FBI will be briefed on the Publications Review Process prior to their establishing a similar program at the FBI. []

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McMahon noted an Athens newspaper headline which reported the President was shot by the CIA because they wanted George Bush to be President.

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McMahon noted that at noon today, the U.S. Ambassador in Managua will talk to Nicaraguan officials about U.S. aide. []

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McMahon raised the 30 March memorandum from Secretary of State Haig to the Director and Secretary of Defense which pertains to the presentation of intelligence to senior foreign officials and the need for State and DoD to come up with a comprehensive release policy. McMahon noted that the Director has the authority and responsibility for release of intelligence to foreigners and that before the Director responds to Haig's recommendations, the request should be considered very carefully. Hitz called attention to the fact that Secretary Haig said any policy also should pertain to briefings on the Hill. []

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